

Assad leaves Algeria after talks

ALGIERS (AP) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad left Algeria for home on Sunday after talks with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid which may signal a change in Syrian-Palestinian relations, sources said. Algeria maintains close ties with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and has implicitly criticised Syria for backing the PLO "dissidents" who forced out Mr. Arafat and his loyalists from Tripoli, Lebanon, in intense fighting last November. Three months ago, Mr. Assad refused to meet a special envoy sent by Mr. Benjedid to Damascus, and Algerian sources said Mr. Assad's weekend visit here — the first by the Syrian leader since May 1982 — could represent a "new flexibility" in Syrian attitudes. Algeria also has relatively warm ties with PLO factional leaders George Habash, and Nayef Hawatmeh.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز جريدة سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

8 killed in Naples 'vendetta'

NAPLES, Italy (AP) — Fifteen gunmen jumped from a private bus outside a church in a Naples suburb Sunday and opened fire, killing eight people and wounding at least seven others in a massacre police said they were treating as a mob vendetta. Among the wounded was 10-year-old Monica Errico, who was shot through the right shoulder, police said. Witnesses said hundreds of people, who were taking Sunday walks or heading to church for mass, fled screaming as the men, armed with pistols and sawed off shotguns, piled out of a 50-seat bus and began to fire at about noon. The gunmen split into two groups outside the church of San Francesco di Paola in the centre of Torre Annunziata before starting to shoot, police officials told reporters. Hundreds of bullets were fired. Naples police officials told reporters it was the largest mass slaying in the southern city or its suburbs in at least 10 years.

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Thai delegation arrives in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Thai delegation led by the deputy foreign minister arrived here Sunday at the head of a delegation on a two-day visit to Jordan. During the visit the delegation will hold talks with ministers of foreign affairs, industry and trade and labour on cooperation between Jordan and Thailand. The delegation was met upon arrival by Foreign Ministry's Secretary General Hussein Hammami and other senior Jordanian officials.

Israeli checkpoint comes under fire

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Resistance forces Sunday fired at a checkpoint manned by Israeli troops and their Lebanese militia allies near the village of Abra, three kilometres east of Sidon, eye-witnesses said. The eyewitnesses said they saw at least one soldier wounded. It was not clear if he was Israeli or a member of the Israeli-backed "South Lebanon army."

Israeli soldiers want to quit Lebanon, page 2

Journalists team to visit occupied lands

TEL AVIV (R) — A three-member delegation of the International Federation of Journalists arrived Sunday to study the treatment of Arab newsmen in Israeli-occupied areas. Hans Larsen of Denmark, Trygve Mu of Norway and Miss Mia Dornart of Belgium said they would visit the West Bank for a week. Yona Shimshi, secretary-general of the Israeli journalists' federation, met the visitors and promised to assist them.

Arafat in Tanzania

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, arrived in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, on Saturday for a two-day official visit. Radio Dar Es Salaam reported. The radio, monitored here, said the PLO leader was met at Dar Es Salaam airport by President Julius Nyerere and Prime Minister Salim A. Hamud Salim and was given a 21-gun salute and a display of traditional tribal dancing.

New Namibian talks expected

LISBON (R) — South Africa, Angola and the Namibian nationalist movement SWAPO will meet again soon to discuss a ceasefire and independence for Namibia (South West Africa), African diplomatic sources said Sunday. They said the meeting was expected to take place in the Cape Verde Islands in the first two weeks of September. Ceasefire talks attended by South Africa, SWAPO (the South West Africa People's Organisation) and Angola in Cape Verde last month ended in failure.

Pretoria criticises Botswana, page 8

Zalzalah calls for intensified efforts to confront challenge Arab League warns against U.S.-Israel trade agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab League assistant secretary general said here Saturday that the projected U.S.-Israeli free trade zone would lead to opening America's markets for Israeli products including military equipment which would eventually result in an Israeli military presence in developing nations and called on Arab nations to find means of confronting the challenge.

Dr. Abdul Muhsen Zalzalah was speaking at a press conference held at the Intercontinental Hotel on the eve of an Arab Economic and Social Council (AESC) meeting which is expected to tackle Israel-U.S. trade links and their strategic alliance along with a host of issues of concern to the Arab Nation. "The free trade zone is a misleading term since the project is very serious and entails real dangers," Dr. Zalzalah said. "The

United States undertakes to transfer its advanced technology to Israel in the field of electronics and military production.

The timing of the AESC meeting, starting here Monday, is important because it precedes the convening of the U.N. General Assembly session which will handle a number of international issues, and comes at a time when the Arab World is going through difficult economic stages following a retreat in the oil boom and in the midst of the present world economic recession and its effects on the Arab economy, Dr. Zalzalah said.

The council's session also coincides with a number of decisions taken by the U.S. and Europe towards foiling the Arab boycott policy against Israel, Dr. Zalzalah added.

Jordan, he said, despite its meagre natural resources has been able to realise great economic achievements and has been able to

attract Arab investments, because of the stability it enjoys.

The council's session starting Monday will discuss among other things, debts of developing nations which amount to \$830 billion of which the Arab World has \$100 billion, high interest rates which result in increasing these debts and trade protectionist measures exercised by Western countries against the products of developing nations, Dr. Zalzalah said.

It is surprising, he said, that the United States, which raises the slogan of free markets, conducts a protectionist policy against developing nations but follows quite an opposite policy in its dealings with Israel.

Dr. Zalzalah said that the council will discuss ways for bolstering inter-Arab trade, the establishment of a pan-Arab corporation for offshore investments and will make an appraisal of the work of specialised Arab League organisations.

Arab foreign ministers discuss Gulf war

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Foreign ministers from seven Arab states began a meeting here Sunday behind closed doors to discuss what was officially described as ways to pressure Iran to bring an end to the Gulf war.

The representatives of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan, Morocco, North Yemen, Tunisia and Iraq, in addition to Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi, planned to assess diplomatic efforts made in the past five months to halt the Iran-Iraq war, according to the Iraqi News Agency (INA).

The eight also were to consider their "plan of action at the international level with the objective of pressuring the Iranian regime into accepting a settlement" to the 47-month-old conflict, the agency

added, without further elaboration.

Baghdad-based foreign correspondents were not allowed to cover the meeting. But an Arab diplomatic source who asked for anonymity said the conferees were considering various proposals, including "direct contacts with some foreign countries to convince them to refrain from buying Iran's oil in return for certain compensations." The source, who was quoted by the Associated Press, did not elaborate.

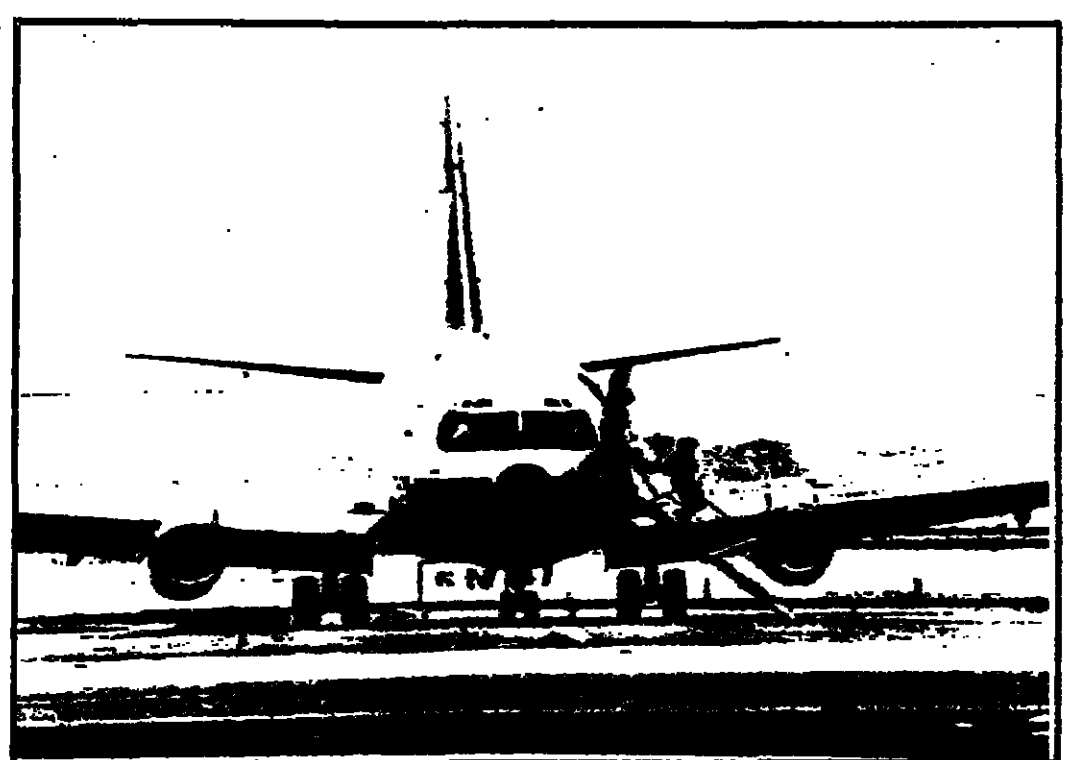
Iraq says Iran has managed to finance the war with revenues from its oil exports. The Iraqis began earlier this year to strike ships using Iranian ports in hopes of cutting Tehran's oil revenues. The ministers' committee was formed March 14 by an urgent

conference of Arab foreign ministers held here at Iraq's request to consider ways of ending the war. Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal said on his arrival Saturday night that the Baghdad meeting would review efforts to end the conflict.

He did not elaborate, but he said he hoped efforts would continue and the war would end.

Iraq has said it is willing to negotiate terms for peace but Iran has rejected mediation efforts and called for the downfall of the Iraqi government.

INA said after the four-hour meeting that the ministers reviewed efforts made since their committee was set up and decided on further moves to try to end the war. It gave no details. Jordan is represented at the



END OF A HIJACK: The leader of group of seven Sikh hijackers leaves an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 at Dubai Saturday, when the hijackers freed the passengers and crew after negotiating with a one-week asylum in the United Arab Emirates (See story below)

Gunbattles erupt in Beirut

BEIRUT, Lebanon (Agencies) — Gunfire broke out in Beirut's downtown commercial district and in two neighbouring crossings between the city's mostly Muslim and predominantly Christian sectors Sunday, forcing the closure of the two gateways, local radio stations reported.

The rapid cracks of machine gun fire echoed through the capital and several residents close to the old "green line" said their neighbourhoods were under heavy sniping.

There was no immediate report of casualties and no word who was involved in the hostilities. The blasts of exploding rocket grenades interspersed the gunfire.

Reuters quoted security sources and residents as saying the clash was between Muslim and Christian army units.

Soldiers of the Muslim Sixth Brigade exchanged small-arms and rocket fire with troops of the Christian Fifth Brigade on the Fud Chehab Flyover, a major east-west crossing point, according to the sources quoted by Reuters.

The cause of the fighting was not immediately clear. The flyover was closed to traffic for the first time since it reopened under a government peace plan last month.

A soldier at the western end of the flyover told Reuters two of his comrades had been wounded by sniper fire. There was no other information on casualties. Armed men in civilian clothes appeared at the western end of the crossing, warning drivers to leave the area.

Christian and Muslim army units replaced militias on the line dividing east and west Beirut last month under a security plan that banned militia appearances throughout the city.

The plan called for the gradual reintegration of army units on the old battlelines, but there has been no action on this.

Sunday's outbreak coincided with a growing crisis between President Amin Gemayyel's administration and Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt over the extension of government authority to the mainly Druze central mountains overlooking Beirut.

Mr. Junblatt has publicly rejected the entry of government troops in the central mountains since the death of army chief of staff Gen. Nadim Hakim, the highest-ranking army Druze officer, in a helicopter crash in north Lebanon.

Khomeini scorns saboteurs

TEHRAN (R) — Iran's revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini Sunday scorned the people behind a bomb explosion in Tehran last week which killed 18 people and injured 300.

"Those who sit abroad and create corruption and explosions and set off firecrackers should know these things have no effect any more except that of making people hate them more," he said.

"However much they try to separate themselves from such action, the people still blame them."

While not directly mentioning it, Ayatollah Khomeini's remarks in a recorded speech broadcast by Tehran Radio clearly referred to the bomb blast outside Tehran railway station last Thursday.

The authorities say they have no firm indication as to who planted the bomb.

Karami announces Tripoli security plan

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (R) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami Sunday announced a security plan for the northern port of Tripoli, where fighting between rival militias has killed 115 people and wounded about 300 since last Monday.

Mr. Karami said all parties had agreed to a definite ceasefire, the removal of gunmen from the streets and a general reconciliation. He said the army would deploy in Tripoli in coordination with Syrian troops stationed in north Lebanon.

The prime minister, Tripoli's leading politician, was speaking after a security committee met to try to end persistent fighting between Sunni Muslim fundamentalists of the "Islamic Unification Movement" (Tawheed) and the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party (ADP).

The ADP sent no representatives to the committee

meeting but authorised Mr. Karami to take whatever decisions he considered appropriate, committee sources said.

A sub-committee set up to implement the plan includes a Syrian intelligence officer, Major Mohammed Al Shaar, the sources added.

Ali 'Eid, leader of the ADP "Arabian Knights" militia, said in Damascus Saturday that he had approved a plan to have Lebanese army units enter Tripoli with the support of a few Syrian army units.

Under the plan, army units would deploy in the next few days at the traditional flashpoints between the ADP and the Tawheed, with Syrian troops providing support if it need be.

The army would then take over other areas of Tripoli and talks would begin on a security plan for all of north Lebanon.

Suez authorities set new cargo regulations

PORT SAID (Agencies) — The chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, Mohammad Adel Ezzat said Sunday the authority will now require all ships carrying dangerous cargo through the canal to declare it before reaching Egyptian waters.

He told a press conference that any ship failing to comply with the new measures would pay a fine. Ships caught failing to declare dangerous cargo at all would be banned from using the canal for two years.

Mr. Ezzat appealed to shippers to notify the authority of dangerous cargo "at least 48 hours before arriving in Egyptian territorial waters so that there is no delay with inspections."

Egypt has searched over 24 ships at both ends of the canal as part of security measures imposed

Peres gains 21 more days to form coalition

TEL AVIV (AP) — President Chaim Herzog granted Prime Minister-Designate Shimon Peres another three weeks Sunday to form a government.

The decision came after Mr. Peres failed to pull together a governing coalition in the initial 21 days legally permitted to him.

The Labour Party leader was unable either to gain enough support from Israel's 13 small parties to give him a 61-seat majority in the parliament, or to reach an agreement with caretaker Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on forming a bipartisan ruling bloc.

Mr. Herzog urged Mr. Peres to concentrate his efforts on forming a bipartisan government as opposed to a narrow ruling coalition.

Mr. Peres told reporters outside the president's house that he would continue efforts to form a

joint Labour-Likud government and added that he had reached agreement in principle with Mr. Shamir on the economy, Israel's involvement in Lebanon and religious policy.

If Mr. Peres fails again, Mr. Herzog likely will give Mr. Shamir a chance to form a governing coalition.

Mr. Peres currently has the support of 54 members of the 120-member Israeli parliament or Knesset, seven short of a majority.

The Labour leader also has the passive support of six pro-Palestinian legislators from the Communist Rakah Party and a new Arab-led party called the Progressive List for Peace.

Those parties probably would not be permitted to join a Labour coalition but will oppose Mr. Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc.

Hijackers' gun may spark India-Pakistan row

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — The pilot and several passengers from a hijacked Indian airliner said here Sunday their captors had been given a pistol during a stopover in the Pakistani city of Lahore.

The charge, following Indian complaints that Pakistan should not have let the plane fly on to Dubai, seems certain to again inflame relations between the two neighbours.

The Boeing 737 was hijacked last Friday on a domestic flight from Chandigarh, state capital of Punjab, to Srinagar. It landed at Lahore and Karachi before going to Dubai, where the passengers were released and the hijackers surrendered.

Michael Fleming, 46, a British businessman working in Bombay, said he was sure the seven Sikh hijackers did not have the pistol when they took over the flight. "The pistol came aboard at Lahore," he told Reuters. "The hijackers were clearly on good terms with the people at Lahore."

K. Subrahmanyam, director of the Indian Institute for Defence Studies, also said he thought the gun was handed to the hijackers at Lahore. "They did not wield anything which looked like a pistol before that," he added.

Mr. Subrahmanyam said one of the hijackers left the plane to negotiate for about 45 minutes, adding, "he must have got the pistol from outside."

"It was not a toy pistol. The hijackers passed it among themselves and I could see it from a foot away," he said.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) quoted the plane's pilot, V.K. Mehta, as saying he did not see the pistol before Lahore.

"Captain Mehta said he first saw the pistol only after taking off from Lahore," PTI said. PTI quoted an unnamed British couple as saying, "the hijackers were given at least one pistol in an envelope at Lahore."

Dev Gupta, a Delhi businessman, said he also thought the gun carried by the hijackers came

from Lahore.

In Islamabad, a Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman Sunday denied allegation and said "this report is not only baseless and absurd but also mischievous."

Meanwhile, security officials in Dubai began Sunday interrogating the Sikh militants responsible for the hijack, police officials said.

The seven Sikh separatists surrendered to authorities in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates on Saturday and released their 73 passengers and six-man crew held captive for 39 hours.

The police officials said they confiscated one pistol, some daggers, two hand grenades and an unspecified number of molotov cocktails.

The hijackers hid daggers and knives they were carrying under the turbans they were wearing, the officials added.

The Saturday release came after 15 hours of negotiations between the hijackers and the Dubai au-

thorities led by UAE Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammad Ibn Rashid Al Maktoum.

Passengers were quoted as saying the hijackers announced over loudspeakers before the release that they were going to be "guests" of the Dubai government for seven days and that they were going on after that to the United States, and frequently expressed desire to become American nationals.

A UAE official, who refused to be identified, said the seven-day offer was made to the hijackers only to protect the passengers and crew.

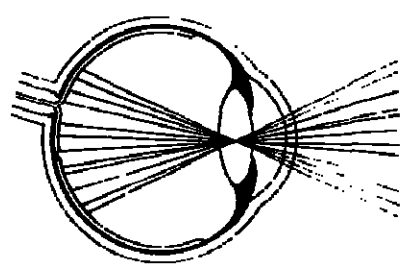
Dubai police chief Col. Dahi Khalfan Tamim said that their future was to be the subject of discussions with the United States government.

A spokesman for the U.S. consulate in Dubai said Sunday that the U.S. is signatory to the Hague Convention concerning air piracy and therefore unable to offer asylum to the Sikh hijackers.

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Crippled tanker under tow to Iranian island

BAHRAIN (R) — The Cypriot tanker Amethyst crippled apparently by an Iraqi missile in the Gulf on Friday was being towed by salvage tugs to an Iranian island, shipping sources said.

Salvage crews, which Saturday put out a fire aboard the tanker, were told by the Iranian authorities to take the vessel to the small offshore oil terminal of Lavan Island, where it was expected to arrive Monday morning.

The Amethyst, 52,000 deadweight tonnes, was about 60 miles south of the main Iranian oil terminal of Kharg Island when it was hit. It had taken on a full load of crude oil at Kharg, destined for the Aden refinery in South Yemen.

The vessel was expected to wait

off Lavan, out of the range of Iraqi jets, for another tanker into which it would offload the oil.

The sources said 32 officers and seamen from the Amethyst arrived in Dubai Sunday and three asked to be taken to hospital, apparently with minor complaints.

A Filipino seaman, one of the 34-member crew of the tanker is missing and presumed dead, shipping sources said Sunday.

They said the rest of the crew, four Greek officers, two Indian and 27 Filipino seamen are expected to leave for their countries

Monday.

More than 45 oil tankers are waiting off the United Arab Emirates (UAE) port of Fujaira, at the mouth of the Gulf, for orders to load oil from Iranian, Saudi, Kuwaiti and UAE oil terminals, shipping sources said Sunday.

They said the increased number of tankers off Fujaira — the usual figure is around 20 — was due to reduced Iranian exports following Tehran's decision to cut them by half.

Shipping companies have ordered their vessels to stay at the mouth of the Gulf because of attacks on shipping by Iran and Iraq, at war for four years, and a rise in insurance rates on tankers serving oil terminals in the waterway, they added.

Yugoslavia, India to discuss Gulf war

BELGRADE (R) — The Iran-Iraq war will be a major topic in Yugoslav-Indian talks when President Veselin Djurancic begins a visit to India Monday non-aligned diplomats said.

Mr. Djurancic's four-day trip to New Delhi follows a visit to Yugoslavia this month by Egyptian leader Hosni Mubarak to launch a new initiative by the Non-Aligned Movement to end the war.

Yugoslavia, India and Egypt are founders of the movement. Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is its current chairman.

Non-aligned diplomats concede that the four-year conflict bet-

ween Iran and Iraq, both members of the Non-Aligned Movement, have exposed the movement's limitations in solving mutual disputes.

A Yugoslav official said Mr. Djurancic and Mrs. Gandhi would discuss ways of improving bilateral economic cooperation which was lagging behind the needs and potential of both countries.

Yugoslavia's trade with non-aligned countries has suffered because of an export drive oriented towards hard currency markets to help it pay off huge debts to Western creditors.

Iran expels 8,000 Kurds from villages

PARIS (R) — The Iranian authorities have ordered more than 8,000 people to leave their villages in a Kurdish province of north-west Iran and are preparing to expel 1,500 more, a Kurdish opposition group said Saturday.

In a statement issued in Paris, the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan said the expulsions affected 66 villages and hamlets in Western Azerbaijan.

It said the villagers were being forced to leave behind their crops, livestock and all their goods, and appealed to international humanitarian organisations to protest against the expulsions.

Israeli soldiers want to leave South Lebanon

TYRE, Lebanon (AP) — Danny, an Israeli soldier at the Litani River checkpoint in South Lebanon, says he does not like to search Lebanese people's cars and make them wait in long lines in the sun.

Danny, like many other Israeli soldiers in the occupied South Lebanon, said he did not want to remain. A colleague, 19-year-old Tamir, said: "We stayed too long. We should have left here a long time ago. Nobody wants us here. If you ask every (Israeli) soldier, no one wants to be here."

The Israeli soldiers are particularly conscious of their precarious job in Lebanon now during Israel's present political statement. Negotiations drag on to form a new Israeli government after July 23 elections produced no clear winner between Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud Bloc and Shimon Peres' Labour Party.

Labour has favoured a quicker pullout from South Lebanon, which the Israeli army has occupied since its June 6, 1982, invasion.

Ronny craned his head over the

top of a sandbagged and corrugated iron guard post between the port cities of Sidon and Tyre and said:

"I thought they would get us out of here sooner. I didn't hear the (election) results for two days. And when I did, I was really shocked. All my friends here — I mean the Israeli men of action — voted Labour."

Ronny's evaluation was not borne out by polls in Israel, which showed more Israeli soldiers voted for Likud.

As is customary with the Israeli army, none of the soldiers — interviewed at posts between the Litani crossing and Sidon — would give his full name.

Attacks on the 15,000-member occupation force are escalating with 70 attacks reported in July. Tamir, a short, dark man with a goatee who lives in Kibbutz Eilon in the Northern Galilee, was asked if the invasion had been worth the casualty toll — nearly 600 Israeli soldiers killed since June 1982. "No, it wasn't ... it (the occupation) has gone far too long."

He thinks the attacks are a reaction to how Israelis harass the

Lebanese.

He said, "I have to tell people to open their cars and I have to search them. I don't like doing this. It makes them hate us."

The reason given for invading was to stop Palestinian fighters from the South, and it largely succeeded in doing so.

But in the last two years, a new resistance has emerged among the dominant Lebanese Shi'ite Muslims there, who carry out most of the attacks against the Israelis.

The Israelis also have to watch out for attacks by Palestinian commandos.

The soldiers are cautious. One, in goggles, waved to drivers on the coastal road last week to keep them about 80 metres from his jeep convoy. Another, the Zahran River checkpoint, fired twice into the air from his Gaiel assault rifle, apparently because a car suddenly speeded up to avoid a collision.

In roadside banana plantations and orchards, where many attacks on Israelis come from, soldiers almost seem to be sniffing for explosives.



PATROLLING SIDON: Members of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army aboard a patrol boat on the coast of Sidon in South Lebanon. Israeli military sources say the army will not be strong enough to support the South on its own for more than a year (AP wirephoto).

Saudis accused of isolating Iranians

TEHRAN (R) — Iran's officials pilgrim leader accused Saudi Arabian authorities in an interview published Sunday of isolating Iranians making the annual pilgrimage to the kingdom this year.

Hojatoleslam Mousavi Khoenja was quoted by the Tehran Times and other newspapers as saying the Saudi authorities and police were determined to prevent other pilgrims from meeting and mingling with Iranian pilgrims.

Some 150,000 Iranians are making the Hajj to Muslim holy shrines at Mecca and Medina this year, an increase of 50 per cent from last year.

Iran made it clear it views the pilgrimage as a meeting place where Muslims can exchange poli-

tical views and demonstrate against what it sees as the evils of Zionism and the superpowers.

The Saudi authorities have warned pilgrims against using the Hajj for political ends.

Mr. Khoenja was quoted as saying the Saudi measures against demonstrations had been effective because they had the backing of other countries that preferred to toe the line rather than become involved with police and officials.

He repeated the official Iranian line that the Saudi rulers should not be allowed to control the shrines in the kingdom, but that the shrines should be administered by a committee with representatives from several countries.

Iranians

A leading Iranian clergyman-politician, Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, referred on Friday to an Iranian demonstration in Medina 10 days ago.

He praised the Saudi authorities for what he said was their acceptance of the fact the demonstration, in which the Iranians waved placards and chanted slogans, was not against them but against the interests of Israel and enemies of Islam.

"They accepted this reality and did not cause any nuisance, and we thank them to that extent," Mr. Rafsanjani said, adding that another demonstration would take place this week.

U.S. churchman says Farrakhan is presenting the truth

By William F. Willoughby

WASHINGTON — A staunch advocate to an "even-handedness" by the National Council of Churches in its policies on the Middle East was severely critical of newsmen who accuse black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan and Democratic presidential contender Rev. Jesse Jackson of being anti-Semitic because of their political criticism of Israel.

"Now what have Jackson and Farrakhan done or said," Dr. Frank Maria of Boston asked, "that justifies the charge 'anti-Semitism'?" Mr. Maria said he is raising the question in his capacity as the representative of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America on the Middle East Committee of the NCC although he said he had not brought any formal complaint to the NCC itself.

Mr. Maria, who also serves on the governing board of the council group, said that despite charges by columnists George Will and Pat Buchanan and other writers that Mr. Farrakhan and Mr. Jackson are anti-Semitic, the two black leaders were only "presenting the truth" about Israel's

actions and policies toward Arabs.

"Simply, they have taken a Christian attitude to the plight of the Arab, Christian and Muslim people of the Middle East who have been suffering as a result of the chronic Israeli-Arab conflict which continues and exacerbates because of our government's military support of Israel, right or wrong," Mr. Maria said.

The church leader divorced himself from remarks by Mr. Farrakhan which castigated the Jewish faith as the black Muslim leader perceives it to be practiced in some quarters as "gutter religion."

Mr. Maria said, adding that he "fully concurs" in a statement issued on 27 June by Dr. Claire Randall, secretary general of the NCC, which said that "there is no place in this nation for the public articulation of the kind of bigotry in Mr. Farrakhan's statement about the Jewish faith."

Miss Randall's statement also said that "another of the basic tenets of our nation, freedom of speech, carries with it responsibility in using that freedom. Such statements as this are totally irresponsible whether made by Mr. Farrakhan or the Ku Klux Klan."

Mr. Maria said the "ill-advised" remarks about the practice of the faith should not be used to occlude the political criticism contained in accompanying remarks. Speaking of Mr. Farrakhan and Mr. Jackson, he said:

"They are critical of Israel because it continues to expand aggressively and oppressively and continues its failure to render justice to the Palestinian people and to the other Christians and Muslims both within Israel and in the occupied Arab territories."

"They also as religious leaders are aware that the political State of Israel continues to violate the human rights of the non-Jewish people and continues to violate international law and even U.S. laws and agreements. They are critical of Israel because they know that unless justice is done by Israel, true peace will be denied that part of the world."

PLO urges sanctions against Sri Lanka

TUNIS (Petra) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has called on Arab countries to take punitive measures against Sri Lanka which has been strengthening its relations with Israel.

PLO's representative at the Arab League headquarters here called on Arab states in a memo sent to the Arab League Sec-

retariat to refrain from importing Sri Lankan tea and manpower and also to freeze all Arab loans and aid to Sri Lanka.

The memo which was distributed to all Arab League member states said that these sanctions should be imposed on Sri Lanka in view of its cooperation with Israel and expansion of its diplomatic ties with the Zionist state.

Arab-Soviet Chamber of Commerce seeks better ways for trade exchange

MOSCOW (Petra) — The Arab-Soviet Chamber of Commerce has called for exploring more and better ways to promote trade exchange between the Arab countries and the Soviet Union.

A statement issued at the end of the fifth meeting of the chamber's council here suggested opening offices for the Federation of the Arab Chambers of Industry, Agriculture and Commerce in the Soviet Union to help achieve that end.

The statement expressed both sides' desire to exchange delegations for exploring the possibility of increasing the volume of products exchanged between the Arab World and the Soviet Union and promoting economic cooperation.

The statement also expressed the council's desire to help bring about an end to the Iran-Iraq war and to establish world peace. It praised the good development of trade and economic relations between the Arab Nation and the Soviet Union.

In a statement to the Soviet

News Agency Novosti, the leader of Jordan's delegation Dr. Burhan Al Dajani described the Moscow meetings as successful and positive.

"The meetings offered the delegates a chance for exchanging views and discussing important issues pertaining to economic and trade relations between the two sides," Dr. Dajani said.

Israel ends summer time

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel, sweltering in mid-summer heat, ended daylight saving time Sunday under pressure from orthodox Jews who say it interferes with religious practice.

Energy experts estimate setting the clock forward one hour since May 5 saved Israel's financially strapped economy \$3 million in energy costs.

controversy"

He suggested that Jehovah, God of the people of Israel, "was often most critical and often very angry with the Israel of the Bible."

A spokesman for the NCC, informed of Mr. Maria's remarks, said only that Mr. Maria's opinions are his own and that he had not submitted them for any kind of comment or action by or from the council. The only comment the NCC has issued on the Farrakhan-Jackson flap pertained to the slur against the Jewish religion.

For more than a decade, Mr. Maria has sought to further open dialogue among Christians, Muslims and Jews on the Middle East through the NCC. Among these efforts was establishment of a Muslim "desk" in the council through which Muslims may serve as observers in council deliberations, similar to the way Jews may participate.

In consideration of his efforts, he and Archbishop Philip Saliba of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America recently were invited to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, to establish the beginnings of worldwide Muslim-Christian dialogue. — Washington Times.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
MAIN CHANNEL
17:30 Koran
17:40 Cartoons
18:00 Children Programme
18:30 Documentary
19:00 Dear Enemy
19:30 Programme Review
19:30 Programme on Jordan Armed Forces
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:00 Local Comedy
21:15 Arabic Series
21:30 News in Arabic
21:50 Foreign Channel
18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Folklore and Bleeps and Blunders
21:10 Living Planet
22:00 News in English
22:15 Love Boat

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
& partly on 9560 KHz. SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newscast
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
08:45 Morning Show
11:00 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:30 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:03 Instrumentals
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Over a Cup of Tea
15:00 Concert Hour
15:30 News Summary
16:00 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Classical Show Case
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Sports Round-up
18:30 Arabian Nights
19:00 Newscast
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 News Summary
21:30 News Summary
21:50 News Summary
22:00 News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz.

06:00 News 06:30 Like it Here
06:45 Letter from London 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:09
19:04 Four Hours News Summary
07:30 Letterbox 07:45 Screen Partnerships 08:00 News 08:30 Baker's Half Dose 09:00 World News 09:09
Twenty-Four Hours News Summary
09:30 Sarah and Company 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 The Young Victims 10:30 Anything Goes 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:25 Good Books 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Music Now 12:15 Science Through the Looking Glass 12:30 Countdown 12:45
World Service Short 12:50 World News 13:09 News from Britain 13:15 Like it Here 13:30 Omnibus 14:00
Radio Newsworld 14:15 Brain of Britain 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00
World News 15:09 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary 15:30 Swinging Sixties 15:45 With Great Pleasure 16:30 Modern Masterpieces 17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 Outlook 18:00 World News 18:09
Commentary 18:15 Hot Air 18:30 Science Through the Looking Glass 18:45
The World Today 19:00 World News 19:09 Book Choice 19:15 My Music 19:40 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newscast 20:30 Worcester — Cathedral City 21:00 Outlook 21:30 Stock Market Report 21:45 Look Ahead 21:45 People's Choice 22:00 World News 22:09
Twenty-Four Hours News Summary 22:30 Sports International 23:00 Network UK 23:15 Like it Here

VOICE OF AMERICA
MW 1260 & SW 720, 9365, 11740, 11925 and 13210 KHz.

06:00 VOA Morning News on the hour; news summaries; daily business report, science and medicine, sports reports; VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundups; documentary analysis; viewpoints; features 17:00
News 17:10 Newsworld 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Music USA standards 19:00 News 19:10 Newsworld 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Music USA standards 21:00 News 21:10 Newsworld 21:30 Magazine Show 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 VOA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

TRIP
* The Friends of Archaeology Club open trip to Khazret Island on Aug. 31 at 08:30 a.m. Departure from the Department of Antiquities.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre ... tel. 6610297
American Centre ... 4371
British Council ... 36147-8
French Cultural Centre ... 37009
Coptic Institute ... 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre ... 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre ... 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre ... 39777
Hays Arts Centre ... 665195
Hansen Youth City ... 667181
Y.W.C.A. ... 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. ... 664251
Amanian Municipal Library ... 36111
University of Jordan Library ... 443555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mountazah, Jabbal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel. 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel. 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabbal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Luweibdeh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Assumption (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman, 41559.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.
Amanian International Church (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 816534.

PRAYER TIMES

03:41 Fajr
05:03 (Sunrise) Shuruq
11:38 Dhuhr
12:15 Asr
18:06 Maghreb
19:33 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alfa Information Systems, Amman (06) 53250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

08:50 Cairo (MS)
09:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 Amman (RJ)
09:40 Moscow, Beirut (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
10:00 Dhahran (RJ)
10:10 Larana, Damascus (RJ)
10:30 Beirut (RJ)
11:30 Islamabad, Ankara (TK)
12:30 Muscat, Dubai, Bahrain (GF)
14:40 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
15:10 Baghdad, Istanbul (TU)
16:30 Athens (RJ)
17:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:40 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
20:50 Cairo (MS)
08:45 Cairo (RJ)
08:50 Baghdad (RJ)
09:00 London, Baghdad (BA)
01:10 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

09:45 Cairo (RJ)
09:50 Beirut (RJ)
09:55 Cairo (MS)
10:00 Amman (RJ)
10:15 Beirut (MEA)
10:30 Athens (OA)
11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:30 London, Baghdad (BA)
11:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:00 London (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30 Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)
12:30 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
13:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
14:30 Cairo (RJ)
15:40 Kuwait (RJ)
16:35 Islamabad, Baghdad (TU)
16:40 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
19:30 Kuwait, Dubai (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
19:45 Dhahran (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (SV)
20:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Jeddah
— Abha Zahabia
— Kotsa Muzri
— Baghe Karachi
— Baghdad
— Mahmoudy
— Soly
— Dohafor Dohafor
— Sulpur Gokubhai
— Elharah
— Jeddah Crown
— Al Zahra
— Aqaba Crown

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MONEY EXCHANGE

Local currency rates in J.S.
Belgian franc 66.5/ 66.9
Dutch guilder 119.1/ 119.8
Qatari riyal 105.6/ 106
Saudi riyal 109.4/ 110.5
Swedish crown 46.4/ 46.7
Swiss franc 161.7/ 162.7
Syrian lira 47/ 47.8
U.S. dollar 105.1/ 105.7
U.K. sterling pound 503.5/ 506.5
U.S. dollar 385.5/ 387.5
W. German mark 134.3/ 135.1

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair, with slight increase in temperature and northwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, which will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C
Amman 16/30
Aqaba 21/36
Dahab 20/36
Jordan Valley 21/36

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Fire 199
Blood bank 775121
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 22090-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 77125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (06) 53533

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813-32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 44281-4
Al-Khalid Maternity, J. Amman 42441
Jabbal Amman Maternity 62562
Malhas, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171-4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
United Hospital 24545
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Musayyid Hospital 667227-9
The Islamic, Abdali 665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Jalila, Al-Mahajir 77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111
Army, Madaba 91611

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Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Najjar 775050

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Apple (local) 280/250
Apple (Mekki) 30

Davignon confident EC will overcome steel crisis

Viscount Etienne Davignon, vice-president of the European Commission, is confident that EEC governments will come to grips with the problems of overcapacity in the steel industry despite the major problems that remain. Ian Rodger reports.

LONDON — "The steel problem is now under control."

That, it seems, is the valedictory message from Viscount Etienne Davignon, vice-president of the European Commission, whose term ends this year. For eight years he has been struggling to nurse the Community's oversize steel industry back to health.

"This is the first time I have been able to say that," he said in a recent interview with the Financial Times. "I still tremble every day and I will not be satisfied until we get to the end, but I think we will get there."

He was referring to Dec. 31, 1985, the date by which European Economic Community (EEC) governments have agreed to stop subsidising their steel industries. The idea is that, by then, a sufficient number of plants will have closed so that supply and demand will return to a reasonable balance. That, in turn, will enable the commission to withdraw from managing steel production and prices.

But past experience suggests this is still a tall order. Some countries may want more time to handle the pain of plant closures. Low cost imports from countries outside the community are likely to

remain a problem, and some companies may find it difficult to compete in a free market again.

Speculation about what will happen in January 1986 will soon change into concern. Steel company directors know that within only a few months they will be faced with customer queries about steel prices for the first quarter of 1986.

Viscount Davignon's optimism is based on his view that EEC governments and steel companies have finally realised the urgency of solving the crisis and have accepted that there is only one way to do it.

The EEC steel problem is simply one of overcapacity. Major investments in the early 1970s, combined with the loss of former colonial markets and the gradual decline in local markets, have left too many mills making too much steel.

The commission concluded in 1982 that about 30 million of the community's 170 million tonnes of capacity had to be closed. By June last year member countries had offered only 18.4 million tonnes. Some resisted closures to avoid job losses in depressed areas. Others, especially West Germany, felt the burden should

fall mainly on inefficient or state supported companies in other countries.

The inability of governments to agree on cuts determined confidence in the entire steel regime, causing a severe deterioration in prices. The combined losses of the French, West German, Italian and British steel industries last year exceeded £2 billion (\$2.6 billion).

Concerned by the high cost of this market breakdown, Community industry ministers met in January and quickly agreed to the commission's revised demand to close nearly 27 million tonnes of capacity. In a further effort to stabilise the market, they approved and price controls to the end of 1985, rather than just for six months at a time as they had done previously.

Even so, sceptics suspected that the new resolve would soon collapse. Viscount Davignon himself was cautious, predicting in February that a few companies would still be in a "hazardous" position in December 1985. However, there is no sign of a recurrence of last year's drastic deterioration in the market, and he is now more optimistic about the outlook for most companies.

"Some will be more fragile than others, but even they will have a chance. If we get to the end of 1985 with some companies feeling they don't have a chance, we will have failed."

He notes that some producers are cutting even more capacity than demanded by the Commission. Thyssen, for example, is closing 4.5 million tonnes, an amount almost as great as that being sought from the whole of West Germany. Italy, long reluctant to make any cuts, is closing a huge mill at Genoa.

"For the first time, it is a reasonable hypothesis that we will succeed," he says. "There is nothing more we need to do or add to make the programme work. On the contrary, it could fail only if some new problem comes along to upset it."

The main potential problem is another collapse of prices. EEC steel prices are still well below Japanese and U.S. levels and it is vital that the rising trend of the past few months continues. Commission officials are now fairly experienced in monitoring steel markets and so are less likely to make errors in setting production quotas and price levels than they were in the past.

"We have sorted out the irritants, which were useful as alibis for some. It took us a long time to have an exact picture of the European steel industry. If there is one thing I have learned, it is that capacity is anything but what the steel companies say it is."

However, prices could also be upset by outside pressures. The threat of fresh U.S. government

action against steel imports is disturbing to EEC producers who sold 4.1 million tonnes of steel products worth \$1.5-2 billion in that market last year. Closer to home, the entry of Spain into the EEC could be disruptive, but at least the Spanish and EEC authorities are agreed on the need for restructuring.

In the longer term, Viscount Davignon is concerned about whether the European steel companies will be able to raise the funds they need to continue developing new products and processes, a challenge that reinforces the urgency of getting the industry back on to a commercial footing.

He insists that no government has indicated, either officially or unofficially, that it wants to extend its closure programme beyond 1985. The commission is remaining firm in its refusal to endorse any corporate restructuring plan that does not appear sufficient to return the company to viability by the end of 1985.

However, he does not believe that the steel market will open up completely in 1986. "If you take a patient out of hospital, you don't expose him immediately to people with horrible diseases just to see if he will become ill again."

"You cannot predict what the problem will be, whether it will be imports from third countries or production levels or exports or prices. Indeed, it would be foolish

to predict because you would almost certainly get it wrong. The idea will be to watch and see what the problem is at the time and provide help in that area alone."

Some analysts suggest that even if EEC steelmakers start out on a more or less equal footing in 1986, their performances will soon diverge because of varying national inflation rates. Some governments will refuse to allow their weak steel companies to go to the wall and so the commission will be obliged once more to intervene.

Viscount Davignon dismisses this, pointing out that every producer has certain advantages and certain handicaps on costs and has to make the best of them. "They can't have their cake and eat it too."

Another potential problem is that the major EEC producers, having become accustomed to agreeing production and price levels among themselves for certain products, will find it hard to go back to full competition. Viscount Davignon snorts at the idea that they never set prices together before 1977. "They were not virgins."

"If we have problems after the end of 1985, we must not let the steel companies sort them out secretly for themselves. If something has to be done, it must be done openly." — Financial Times news feature.

Randa Habib's Corner

Too quickly implemented

EVEN THOUGH many of my colleagues have already talked about it, today I want to go back to this thorny subject, the airport tax. From JD 3 it rocketed to JD 10, in spite of the astonishment and disapproval of every one.

Many people complain about not being previously informed, some ask for explanations etc... some (very few I should admit) did not understand all the fuss made for JD 7, noting that if people can travel, then they can very well afford to pay JD 10 in tax. I would add to this that I have never heard people complaining or writing editorials when the price of air fares is increased by 10 per cent... but forget it.

To go back to the airport tax, the decision to increase the tax from three to 10 dinars was too quick and as such reveals a lack of study. This tax could have been imposed in pro rata to the cost of the airline ticket for example. It is not fair or normal that a person who is flying to Cyprus pays the same tax as the one who is travelling to the U.S.

I am thinking here about families of five or six persons who wait for the fast holidays to travel modestly to a neighbouring country. It is not fair that those should pay 50 or 60 dinars, which make a very high percentage of their travel expenses. Why not impose the tax according to the travel class? A first class passenger would pay a higher tax than the one travelling in tourist class.

As to the students who come back to Jordan once or twice a week to visit their families, shouldn't they pay a reduced tariff? Last but not least, the tax for a passenger going to Damascus by service taxi is almost as much as the cost of the trip.

We fully agree that the government decides to impose taxes in order to alleviate its financial problems but those taxes should be imposed after very careful consideration and should never be whimsical decisions.

Record theatre-goer pursues obsession

By Matt Wolf
Associated Press

EDINBURGH — The world's "most ardent theatre-goer" drama professor Gerald Berkowitz, who set a record here in 1979, is back at the 38th annual Edinburgh International Festival seeing as many shows as possible in the allotted time.

In 1979 Mr. Berkowitz saw 145 shows at the three-week arts festival and was cited several years running in the British edition of the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's most ardent theatre-goer.

The American academic and author of "New Broadway: Theater Across America, 1950-1980" does not expect to beat his record this year, but his enthusiasm for the festival is undimmed.

"I like to think that if there is a special heaven for good theatre-goers when they die, then it looks like the Edinburgh Festival," Mr. Berkowitz, 42, told the AP.

Mr. Berkowitz is a professor of English and drama at northern Illinois University in De Kalb, Illinois. He attributes his slower pace in the years since 1979 to a "matter of endurance, rather than a lack of enthusiasm."

"The big difference is that I'm getting older," he said. He plans to see 70 of more than 900 dramatic events at the festival before he leaves here Aug. 25.

"Now, if I'm physically exhausted, I go home," Mr. Berkowitz said. "The other night I stopped at 10 p.m. although I could easily have squeezed in two more."

The concentration of dramatic offerings at the festival, one of the world's largest devoted to the arts, is great indeed.

There are official events such as Anne Jackson and Eli Wallach in their Broadway show "Twice Around the Park" and the New York Negro Ensemble Company's production of Charles Fuller's Pulitzer Prize-winning "A Soldier's Play."

These compete for audience

attention with some \$30 "fringe" events — unofficial performances of plays, cabaret and dance that start at 10 a.m. and end around 5 a.m. next day.

"I try to cover all the theatres and my rate so far is fractionally better than five a day," Mr. Berkowitz said.

"I don't deliberately choose the short ones," he added, calculating that, with care, it is possible to cram 20 of the shorter productions into 24 hours.

Mr. Berkowitz has become a local celebrity and is often used to drum up publicity in Edinburgh for the fringe.

But his academic pursuits carry over to his choice of shows. This year for example, he will be reporting on each of the many fringe Shakespearean productions for the academic publication "The Shakespeare Quarterly," that tries to cover every production of the bard's work performed anywhere in the world.

He will also file reports on the 1984 festival for the "Theatre Journal" and the "Tennessee Williams" newsletter.

"I've been surprised by something I didn't want to see turning out to be great often enough that I'm not too pre-judgemental. You can see six shows a day here and pay 20 pounds (\$26)," Mr. Berkowitz said.

He decided a decade ago to try to spend every summer in Britain, surveying the theatre in London and in Stratford-on-Avon, as well as here.

On a recent month-long stay in London, Mr. Berkowitz said he saw every show at the two government-subsidised complexes, the National and the Royal Shakespeare Company's (RSC) Barbican Theatres, as well as all the offerings in the West End, London's Broadway.

"It's a rather different matter to see a show on which for five pounds (\$6.50) in London than to see one on which in New York for \$50, he said, although he usually makes two theatre-related trips to New York a year.

Poverty: A painful experience in affluent welfare society

By Stefan Geiger

The new poverty gap in Germany is the painful experience, for people brought up in a welfare state, that after a year on full state welfare cheque is just not enough to make ends meet.

"I've simply abandoned hope," says one of the new poor, a man who earned good money until a few years ago and used to be able to support his wife and family with ease.

He could afford the little extras that are the spice of life in an affluent society. Then he was sacked on grounds of illness.

The family was cushioned from the worst effects of unemployment for the first year of entitlement to full benefit but has since been one of the growing number of welfare recipients on the brink of what Germans regard as subsistence.

Residual unemployment benefit is not enough. The family has to apply for welfare allowances to make sure of at least enough to eat. The erstwhile breadwinner is 43 and still in poor health.

He is unlikely to find a job even if there is a substantial improvement in the unemployment rate and many of the 2.1 million who are now out of work find employment.

His case is anything but a sad exception to the rule. His plight, and that of others raised by the trade union movement, was predictable.

Every month more and more people no longer qualify for the full unemployment benefit because, for instance, they have drawn it for a full year and are still out of work.

Not everyone is entitled to it in the first place. At present 35 per cent of the unemployed still draw full benefit, 28.4 draw reduced benefit (which is often below the poverty line) and 36.7 per cent have no entitlement whatever.

This third group consists of people who haven't paid unemployment insurance because they left school and were unable to find a job or because they were self-employed and didn't qualify for the unemployment insurance scheme.

If husbands, wives or the family are unable to help them to make ends meet their only option is to apply for welfare allowances, and an estimated 50 per cent of potential claimants are too ashamed or otherwise reluctant to do so.

Local government authorities, who pay welfare benefits, are already complaining that one welfare claimant in four has been out of work for over a year.

By German standards this is a dramatic development. Ten years ago 69 per cent of registered unemployed drew full benefit and a mere six per cent the lower rate.

The new poor are mainly older workers and people in poor health, migrant workers and a growing number of young people who go straight from school to the breadline.

They are the ones who know from personal experience what the "new poverty" is like. But the unemployed in general are worse off than they used to be now government spending cuts have steadily eaten away at unemployment benefits.

You now have to have worked longer to qualify, which naturally hits beginners and people who have been unemployed before.

The amount paid in reduced benefit has been cut, and welfare allowances have lagged behind inflation for years.

The poor in the Federal Republic have grown even poorer. They are the ones who are paying the highest price for public spending cuts (no matter how necessary cuts may be).

How macabre it must be for the poor now to learn that in spite of high unemployment the Federal

Labour Office has accumulated a surplus of DM2.7b because expenditure has been lower than expected, partly because an increasing number of unemployed have been out of work for over a year and are drawing lower benefit.

Understandably, local authorities are not alone in wanting to see a change brought about (in their case because of the welfare burden). So do the opposition and the trade unions.

Politicians on the trade union wing of the Christian Democrats

are also calling on the government to make sure that the Labour Office surplus is shared out to help the unemployed.

But more is at stake than all-otting DM2.7b that has suddenly materialised as a surplus.



THE FAMILY OF CENTENARIANS: Husband and wife Gulam and Sadaf Agayev from the village of Khyrmandali (Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic) are now 110-years old.

The Agayevs lived a long and interesting life. They were among the first who started a new life in Soviet Azerbaijan as members of a collective farm.

Gulam and Sadaf have eleven children. The elder sons have never

returned from the war/1941-1945. The other children grew up and got education. There are over 150 members of the Agayev family who could form a whole farm.

The Agayevs have long retired on a pension, but they cannot but work all the day long. And that is perhaps, the secret of their longevity (Fotokhronika TASS)

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Saudi men secure top honours in table tennis

AMMAN (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia won two gold medals in the men's singles and double events at the Ninth Arab Table Tennis Championship which ended here Saturday.

Bahrain, South Yemen, Syria and Tunisia won one gold medal each.

Saudi Arabia's Ra'ed Hamdan won the men's singles, with five wins and two defeats. Imad Jihad of Iraq took the silver medal and Bandar Al Amiri of Saudi Arabia the bronze.

The two Saudis won the men's doubles, with Syria's Imad Qabbani and Jamal Al Rishah taking the silver and the Iraqi pair of Hikmat Jawad and Jamal Jalal winning the bronze.

Faiza Bin Issa of Tunisia won

the women's singles with six wins and one defeat. Syria's Azzah Al Abdallah took the silver medal and Iraq's Iftikhar Jumah the bronze.

In the women's doubles, Fatima Nasser and Naila Hassan of South Yemen won the gold medal, with Faiza Bin Issa and Maha Khamaja of Tunisia taking the silver and Syria's Azzah Abdallah and Suzan Mahasen the bronze.

Syria's Imad Qabbani and Azzah Al Abdallah won the mixed doubles, with Imad Jihad and Iftikhar Juma of Iraq taking the sil-

ver medal and Tunisia's Lufti Joudah and Maha Khamaja the bronze.

In the boys' singles, Libya's Al Taher Mahjoub won the gold medal with 14 wins and two defeats. The silver medal went to Khaled Al Sadi of the United

Arab Emirates and the bronze to Tunisia's Sata Murad.

Bahrain's Nadia Bujiri won the girls' singles with 13 wins and three defeats. Lubna Hawwash of Jordan took the silver medal and Libya's Iman Mohammad the bronze.

Medals table:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Saudi Arabia	2	—	1
Tunisia	1	1	2
Syria	1	2	1
Libya	1	—	1
Bahrain	1	—	—
South Yemen	—	—	—
Iraq	—	2	2
Jordan	—	1	—
The United Arab Emirates	—	1	—

Lendl beats Arias, faces Gomez in Hamlet finals

JERICHO, New York (R) — Top seed Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia beat American Jimmy Arias, the fourth seed, 6-0, 7-6 in the semi-finals of the Hamlet Challenge Cup Tennis Tournament here Saturday.

Lendl, ranked second in the world, will play second-seeded Andres Gomez of Ecuador, the Italian Open and U.S. clay court champion, in Monday's final. The winner will receive \$35,000.

Gomez easily beat unseeded Heinz Gunthardt of Switzerland 6-2, 6-3 in the other semi-final, which lasted just 63 minutes.

"Lendl, who won his opening set at love in 22 minutes, said after the match: 'I played great at the beginning. I didn't miss anything and I couldn't do better.'

"I won the close points, but in the second set it turned around and Arias started winning close points."

Arias held service and then had double set point at 15-40 against Lendl's service. But the Czechoslovak won the next four points on a sideline placement, an Arias error, an ace and a volley placement to force a tiebreaker at 6-6.

Olympics give lacklustre performances in Cologne

COLOGNE, West Germany (AP) — There were lots of Olympic stars but few stellar performances Sunday at the International Cologne Sports festival track and field meet before 58,000 spectators at Muengersdorfer Stadium.

The closest to a world record-breaking performance came from Olympic gold medalist Joaquim Cruz of Brazil, who clocked 1 minute, 41.77 seconds in the men's 800-metre run.

That was four-hundredths of a second slower than the world record held by Sebastian Coe of Bri-

tain, who did not attend Sunday's meet.

However, Cruz improved on his winning time of 1:43 at the Summer Games in Los Angeles a few weeks ago.

Second and third behind Cruz at Cologne were Sammy Koskei of Kenya, clocked 1:42.28 and Johnny Grey, of the United States, with 1:43.28.

Fourteen Olympic gold medalists attended the meet but most of them failed to equal the marks they made at Los Angeles Olympics.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday presents an award to one of the winners of the annual sports festival held by the Third Royal Armoured Division (Petra photo)

Army unit stages sports festival

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday attended an annual sports festival held by the Third Royal Armoured Division.

The participating units took part in a tug-of-war, track race and athletic events, and the winners received cups from Prince Hassan at the end of the festival.

The commander of the participating units presented the Crown Prince with a token gift on the occasion.

Saturday evening the units held a cultural function in which national songs and dances were held and a play was performed before the audience. Prince Hassan attended the cultural activity accompanied by Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, the assistant army chief of staff for administration, the division commander and senior army officers.

Lloyd to meets Moulton in Montreal finals

MONTREAL (R) — Top-seeded Chris Evert-Lloyd was to meet unseeded Alycia Moulton in the final of the Player's Challenge Tennis Tournament Sunday.

American Evert-Lloyd, 29, the two-time Canadian Open champion, reached the final with a 6-3, 6-1 victory over seventh-seeded Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia Saturday, while Moulton, 23, of Sacramento, California, defeated Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden 7-5, 6-2.

Evert-Lloyd dominated the match with her customary regularity from the baseline, preventing Sukova from moving to the attack.

"I felt I had an answer for everything she gave me," said Evert-Lloyd. "Helena likes to start at the baseline and hit the ball hard."

Moulton, the number 34-ranked player who earlier in the tournament eliminated number two seed Hana Mandlikova and number 11 Bettina Bunge, continued to impose her powerful attacking style of tennis in her match with Lindqvist.

In doubles play Saturday, Evert-Lloyd and her partner Catherine Tanvier of France defeated Elise Burgin of Baltimore and New Yorker Joanne Russell 6-3, 6-4 before losing a semi-final encounter to Kathy Jordan of King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, and Australian Elizabeth Sayers by a 6-1, 6-4 score.

The other semi-final saw Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia and West German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch defeat Californian Sandy Collins and Sukova 6-7, 6-4, 6-3.

All-Swedish finals for ATP

KINGS ISLAND, Ohio (R) — Anders Jarryd defeated Joakim Nyström 7-5, 6-4 in a semi-final match of the \$300,000 Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) championship here to earn a berth in the final against his fellow Swede Mats Wilander.

Wilander, the third seed, beat second-seeded American Jimmy Connors 7-6, 1-6, 7-6 in an earlier semi-final.

The fifth-seeded Jarryd's match with Nyström, seeded eighth, did not compare for excitement with the Wilander-Connors battle.

Jarryd and Nyström both stayed on the baseline virtually all through the match. Jarryd's usually strong first serve was successful only 38 per cent of the time, but Nyström made only 35 per cent of his.

Prost wins Zandvoort Grand Prix

ZANDVOORT, Netherlands (R) — Alain Prost of France won the Dutch Grand Prix here Sunday, beating his McLaren teammate Niki Lauda to narrow the margin between the pair in the world championship to just one and a half points.

The Austrian still heads the table with 54 points while Prost, who relinquished his lead after crashing in last Sunday's Austrian Grand Prix, is second with 52½ points.

The two McLaren drivers dominated the race as Prost answered all doubts about his temperament under pressure with an immaculate exhibition.

The Frenchman took the lead after the early leader, Nelson Piquet of Brazil, stopped with engine trouble in his Brabham on the 11th lap.

After Lauda had closed to 1.3 seconds on the 26th lap of the 71-lap race, Prost set a searing pace to move away and take the event with 10.2 seconds to spare. Nigel Mansell of Britain, who drove a superb race in his Lotus after starting 12th, was third.

At the start, Piquet swept ahead of Prost, who had held pole position, and quickly opened up a three-second lead. Lauda made a poor start and dropped to about 10th place from sixth.

But as Piquet edged away from Prost, with Keke Rosberg of Finland in third place in a Williams, Lauda began a lightning drive through the field.

On the 11th lap, Lauda moved third, overtaking Rosberg at the hairpin at the end of the home straight after delaying braking to the last moment. Seconds later, on the same lap, Piquet pulled off the track leaving Prost in front, 8.7 seconds ahead of Lauda.

Rosberg held on to third place until the 53rd lap when Mansell slipped past him at the end of the fast home straight.

Mansell had earlier passed his teammate Elio de Angelis of Italy and French Renault driver Patrick Tambay, who fought a long duel until Tambay had to pull briefly into the pits with tyre trouble.

De Angelis finished fourth and Tambay sixth, behind Italy's Teo Fabi in a Brabham.

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Handwritten signature: J. Al-Sayid

Zanussi's future hangs in balance

ILAN, Italy (R) — The future of Zanussi, Italy's leading home appliance producer and one of its fastest growing industrial success stories, now lies in the hands of its creditors, haggling over the terms of a rescue bid.

Italian banks owed most of Zanussi's 1,046 billion lire (\$590 million) of debts have accepted proposals from Electrolux of Sweden to buy a 49 percent stake. But key foreign banks have so far rejected an Electrolux offer to pay 70 percent of Zanussi's dollar loans in return for writing off the rest.

Further delays will be extremely serious from Zanussi's point of view," warned Electrolux resident Anders Scharp. "Zanussi is bleeding and the risk is it will bleed to death."

Mr. Scharp set a new deadline of two weeks from now for reaching an agreement with the foreign creditors, saying his firm's offer was a package deal and if the banks did not accept the terms, the deal might not go through.

A combined Electrolux-Zanussi group would command early one quarter of West Europe's market for so-called "white goods," easily outstripping its main rivals, Philips and Siemens-Bosch of West Germany.

Zanussi ran into trouble in the early 1980s after borrowing heavily at home and overseas to fund ventures into consumer electronics and housebuilding.

"Like many successful firms, Zanussi thought it could never put foot wrong even when it invested outside its mainline business which is cookers and fridges," said an Italian banker.

To diversify it borrowed and we all know that debts have a ten-

decy to multiply when interest rates are high," he added.

On sales running at more than \$1 billion annually, Zanussi has lost 170 billion lire (\$96 million) in the past two years and by last December had accumulated debts of 1,046 billion lire (\$590 million).

Electrolux is the latest of several European multinational firms to woo Zanussi, whose headquarters are at Pordenone in northeast Italy.

Last March Thomson-Brandt of France made a bid, less than a year after Philips, the Dutch electronics giant, signed a technical cooperation deal with Zanussi, fuelling speculation that it had predatory designs.

One senior Italian banker said he believed the Electrolux takeover package was the only viable offer available at this stage.

Since last March there had been several rescue proposals from Italian financial and industrial interests, but none was acceptable to the Zanussi family, which still controls the company, the banker said.

"The Electrolux bid is not just the best available. Of the proposals I have seen it's the only one which has a real chance of success," he said.

The banker, who asked not to be named, said he believed that if Electrolux pulled out of the deal there was a strong possibility the government would have to put Zanussi into receivership.

"If that happens the foreign banks will be lucky to get 30 per cent of their money back," he said.

Zanussi's Italian bank creditors have agreed to reschedule the firm's debt over seven years.

This will be consolidated for four years, during which period Electrolux will be charged a favourable interest rate, with principal repayments beginning in the fifth year.

If the takeover goes ahead Electrolux will eventually acquire around 75 per cent of Zanussi by subscribing to a series of capital increases, a Zanussi spokesman said.

With one exception, the Italian creditor banks have also accepted Electrolux's offer of a 70 per cent repayment of dollar loans extended to Zanussi by their foreign subsidiaries.

Several bankers said they feared that even if the foreign creditors finally reached agreement, the entire deal could still fall through if the odd man out, the Tuscan-based Monte Dei Paschi Di Siena, refused to withdraw its objections.

The bank's chairman, Mr. Piero Barucci, has said he objects to his bank being asked to help finance the takeover of an Italian firm by a foreign multinational and has appealed to Italian industrialists to help save Zanussi.

But Electrolux, president Mr. Scharp gave assurances in an interview in the Milan daily Corriere Della Sera that Zanussi would retain a high degree of managerial independence.

"Wherever our firm operates abroad we allow local managers the maximum freedom of action," he was quoted as saying.

But Mr. Scharp warned that further cuts may be necessary in Zanussi's labour force, which has been pruned to 22,500 from 27,000 a year ago by a combination of redundancies and sales of loss-making subsidiaries.

Israel exploits privileged relations with EC, U.S.

Under an agreement made in 1975, Israel enjoys special trading advantages with the European Community (EC). The North African (Maghreb) Arab countries also have trading advantages, in their case due to their historical connection with and commercial dependence on France.

The member countries of the former European Free Trade Area (EFTA), of which Britain was the largest member before joining the EC, also have advantages. East Germany also has a privileged relationship with West Germany.

It is easy to see why the Maghreb countries, the EFTA countries, and East Germany should enjoy their respective special relationships.

It is difficult to see why Israel should have been privileged. It is not a European country and never had the historical dependence on any European country in the way that the Maghreb countries have.

Yet, Israel is now seeking an enhanced position for itself, which would be at the expense of Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, at the expense of Spain, if and when Spain becomes a member of the EC, which is due in 1986, and at the collective expense of the entire EC.

As usual, Israel's foreign agencies in the Zionist organisations in Europe will be exerting their own pressure, within the EC countries and directed from Tel Aviv, to enhance the Israeli position.

The Maghreb countries have no such agency to press their case.

It is the likely accession of Spain and Portugal, and especially Spain, which is forcing the issue. Israel and the Maghreb all export substantial quantities of agricultural products to the EC at specially reduced tariff rates.

Spain produces the same products and its membership could threaten those exports.

For example, Morocco calculates that it could lose all its exports and that about half a million of its people would, thereby, lose their means of livelihood.

On Feb. 20, 1984, the EC-Israel Cooperation Council met in Brussels to discuss the Israeli situation. The importance attached to the issue by the Israelis was demonstrated by the fact that their delegation was led by the prime minister himself, Mr. Shamir.

There is to be a further meeting

of the council in September.

In Jerusalem, on May 3, the French minister for European affairs, Mr. Roland Dumas, promised that France would press, at the September meeting, to "guarantee" the access of Israeli products to the Common Market.

What Israel, backed by the worldwide Zionist agencies is, in fact, pressing for, is a complete free trade agreement with the EC, coupled with full technical and commercial cooperation, practically tantamount to membership of the EC without the responsibilities of membership.

Israel is already abusing its privileged relationship with the EC.

Mr. Shamir, speaking in Brussels in February, went so far as to demand that Spanish recognition of Israel should be made a condition of Spain's admission to the EC. It was an unprecedented attempt to put demands on the EC in Israel's interests. It requires to be considered with Israel's hostile response to EC peacekeeping efforts in the Middle East.

The EC's major contribution to try to bring peace was in the Venice Declaration of 1980. Israel, making full use of its worldwide Zionist agencies, immediately launched a campaign, on both sides of the Atlantic, to destroy the Venice Declaration.

Israeli conduct also requires to be set against the resolution of the European Parliament of May 19, 1983, which invited the EC foreign ministers to use all means they could to persuade Israel immediately to end its illegal colonisation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

If that means anything at all, it hardly means giving Israel still more privileges.

But is not only at the political level that Israel is already abusing its privileged EC relationship. It is also doing so in trade.

Manufactured products which have 40 per cent or more Israeli added value are exempt from EC tariffs. At Iskoor, near Tel Aviv, there is steel processing plant which is jointly Israeli and South African owned. The Israeli own-

ership is the Histradut, the syndicalist movement.

Crude steel is imported from South Africa, processed to give it the requisite added value and then re-exported to Europe, thereby giving South Africa an access to the EC which it would not attain otherwise.

That should be set against the EC's painfully worked out d'Avignon Plan, which has so much reduced the community's own steel production, with devastating effects in steelmaking areas in Britain, France and other European countries.

The Israeli exploitation of its privileged relations with the EC is also being carried across the Atlantic.

On Nov. 29, 1983, Mr. Shamir and President Reagan proposed that there should be a complete free trade agreement between their two countries, with no tariffs of any description.

The only other country with which the U.S. has such an agreement is Canada. With the long border between the two countries, it is obvious why there should be such an arrangement.

Israel has no comparable claim whatsoever to justify such an agreement.

Then, in February 1984, Mr. Elmer Winter, Chairman of the Committee for Economic Relations with Israel and former chairman of the American Jewish Committee, gave evidence to the finance committee of the United States Senate. He stated that the projected free trade agreement would open new export markets for American products to Europe via Israel.

Mr. Winter told the Senate Finance Committee that, thanks to Israel's "free trade" agreements with the EC, American products would be able to be competitive in Europe, after being finished in Israel.

So, Israel is seeking to give American industry the same back door entry in Europe that she already gives to South Africa.

All this is in accordance with long-standing Israeli policy.

In 1978, the then minister of finance, Mr. Simha Ehrlich, announced, during a visit to South Africa, that Israel would facilitate the export of South African products to the EC and to the United States.

Bahrain offshore bank assets fall \$0.8b in June

BAHRAIN (R) — Assets of Bahrain's 77 offshore banks fell \$800 million in June to \$62.4 billion, the Bahrain Monetary Agency reported Sunday.

The figure, slightly below the end-1983 asset figure of \$62.74 billion, compares with the record set in March of \$63.47 billion.

In June 1983, assets stood at \$56.47 billion. Assets held in U.S. dollars slipped to \$46.75 billion from \$47.28 billion in May, while the share of regional currencies rose to \$10.94 billion from \$10.76 billion.

On the liabilities side, the U.S. dollar accounted for \$42.48 billion, down from \$42.95 billion in May, while regional currencies made up \$15.18 billion, up from \$15.12 billion.

Deposits from Arab countries fell to \$40.38 billion from \$40.48 billion, while from Western Europe deposits fell to \$13.82 billion from \$14.35 billion.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a day when you can get into the details of whatever plan of action you had planned for this week and start it right by an exact appraisal of the specifics that are to be performed.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Work should be on the agenda today, whether at home, office, shop or whatever and thereby getting much done.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Early make the appointments necessary for entertainment you desire later. Being more thoughtful of your mate will bring appreciation.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Keep promises to kin that were made over the weekend or plan how to improve home conditions.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You are able to do whatever is of a constructive nature today so get busy early shopping, etc.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get the new week started wisely by handling monetary affairs extremely well and be sure to make collections and pay bills.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be concerned with your own wishes and amiable personal ambitions today and get what you most desire.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study all those small tasks ahead of you and then handle them quickly and efficiently. They will soon be out of the way.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have some wishes that need practical handling in order to attain them, so put forth energy and do so.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Important you handle your job in such a way that higher-ups will be satisfied and pleased.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Adopt a new attitude in starting the new week and you can get far better results. Then you will comprehend issues better.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be sensible in handling any business affairs and get fine results. Also important that you keep all promises made on time.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Have a long talk with partners with whom you want to get along better in the future, and get good results.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will have much ability at such work that is connected with building, designing, technology, adding machines, etc. Teach early to study the motives behind any enterprise so that your progeny will not get caught in any unsavory enterprise innocently.

Japan to build floating jetties for Iran

TEHRAN (R) — Japan's Mitsui group will build nine free-floating jetties for Iran's southern ports and islands under a \$6.6 million contract signed with the Iranian shipping company.

The national news agency IRNA said the docks, to be delivered in nine months, will be used for passengers and cargo between the islands and the ports of Bandar Abbas and Kung opposite Oman and the United Arab Emirates at the entrance to the Gulf.

Iran is developing its southern ports, partially as a result of the Gulf war and Iraqi pressure on ports in the northern part of the waterway.

Record wheat stock

Meanwhile, Iran has built up a record wheat stock capable of meeting domestic consumption or seven to 12 months, IRNA

reported.

"It gave no overall crop or storage figures, but quoted the head of the cereals organisation Mr. Mohammad Javad Assemi-Pour as saying silo storage capacity was now 1.2 million tonnes and wheat storage houses could take another 500,000 tonnes.

He also said farmers had sold 750,000 tonnes of wheat to the government so far this year and production in some areas had doubled.

The cereals organisation last year went through a critical period, with storage in some silos less than one day's requirements. But urgent steps had been taken to overcome the problem, IRNA quoted Mr. Assemi-Pour as saying.

"The cereals organisation has realised 96 per cent of its plans on imports, such that no delays can be seen in wheat transportation from

the ports to the silos," he said.

Mr. Assemi-Pour added Iran should increase production as fast as possible because major producers such as the United States, the European Community, Canada, Argentina and Australia could use wheat as a political tool.

The agency also quoted construction minister Jihad Bijan Zangeneh as saying the ministry was using an improved dry farming method for wheat production on two million hectares of land which was expected to boost production by 650,000 to 700,000 tonnes a year in 1986-87.

Gulf financial experts hold talks on exchange rates

DOHA (R) — A committee of financial experts from the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council was meeting in Muscat Sunday on ways to coordinate exchange rate policies.

The head of Qatar's delegation to the meeting, Mr. Mu'jab Turki Al Turki, was quoted by Al Raya newspaper as saying Qatar had submitted a memorandum to the council explaining its exchange rate policies, which he said aimed

at maintaining the value of the Qatari riyal (fixed at 3.65 riyals to the dollar).

The council groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

Mr. Turki, the head of the investment section at Qatar's monetary agency, said the memorandum contained a study of International Monetary Fund (IMF)

suggestions for foreign exchange rate coordination.

He said Qatar's monetary policy was based on gradual monetary coordination among council members so that "as a first stage their currencies could be pegged to a joint unit of account with the aim of realising the utmost stability in their exchange rates."

This stage, he said, could later be advanced to reach the goal of a

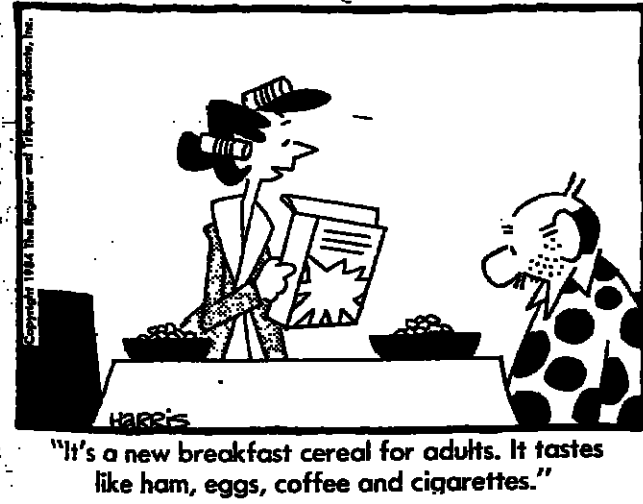
unified Gulf currency.

Meanwhile, in Kuwait the domestic dinar deposit market was idle Sunday ahead of the five-day Eid Al Adha holiday in early September, dealers said.

In Bahrain Saudi riyal deposit rates eased in quiet Sunday morning trading in the absence of a devaluation of the riyal, dealers said. Day-to-day money remained firm, however.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



U-M-B-L-E

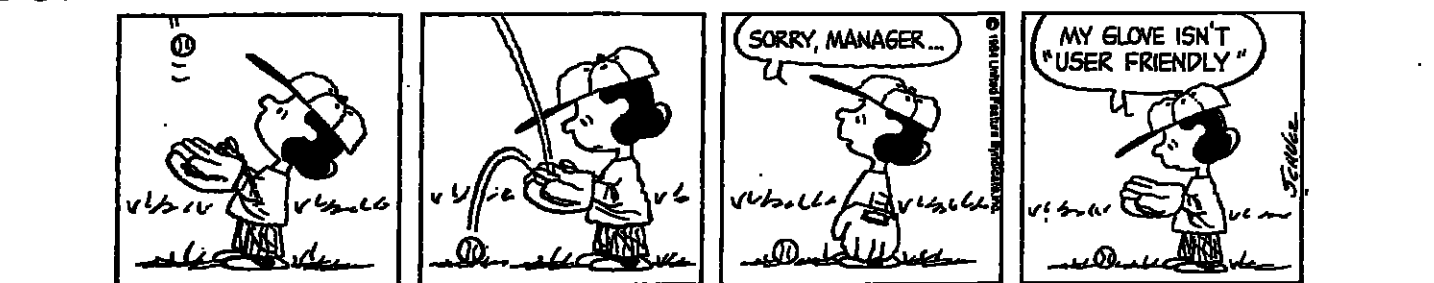
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Answer: (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: APRON HANDY ENZYME BAZAAR
Answer: What the picnicers were — "HAMPERED"

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



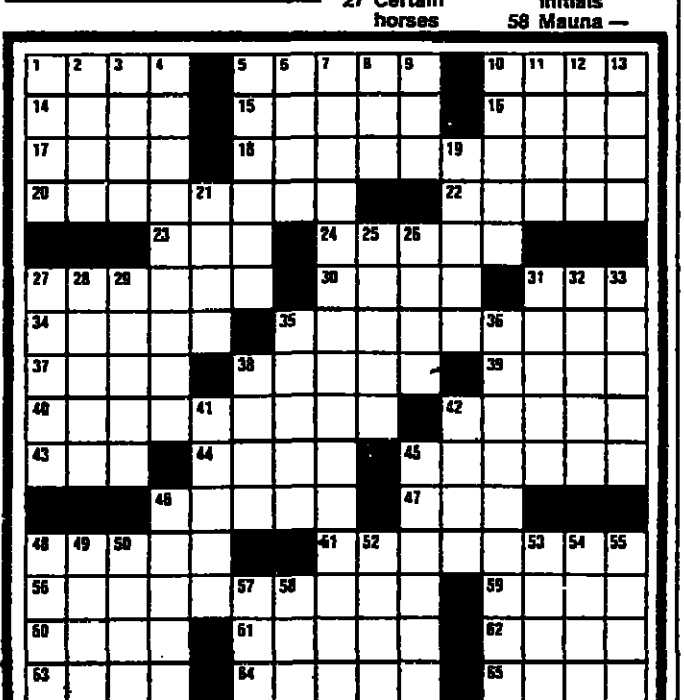
THE Daily Crossword

by Nancy McCarthy

ACROSS	1 Christiania now	5 Very cold	10 Foundered	14 Bucket	15 Pale-purple color	16 Indian	17 Victorian oath	18 Bucket-kicker of song	20 N.J. town	22 Drive	23 "Norma" —	24 Likeness	27 Put in a new mold	30 Beauty mark	31 Wine-bibber	34 Kukia's friend	35 Regeneration	37 Grandparental	38 Ky. town color	39 Recent	40 Journal	42 Conchita's goodbye	43 Draft letters	44 Iranian coin	45 Strip blubber	46 Soprano —	47 Own: Scot. Parrot	51 Dismounts	56 Anglo-Saxon mountains	59 Kirghiz	60 Stagger	61 Daniel or Pat	62 Story	63 Underheads and Blamark	64 More rational	65 Snicker —	DOWN	1 Mid-east acronym	2 Lengthy tale	3 Ananias	4 Chisholm and Mohawk	5 Small bloom	6 Anger	7 "Give me that —"	8 Butt	9 Govt. org.	10 Fr. river	11 At the summit	12 Proboscis	13 Ship's bottom	19 Afr. river	21 Facility	25 Machine for lawns	26 Seaweed	27 Certain horses	28 Imaginary beings	29 Talons	31 Rustic suitor	32 Prelinger	33 This and this	35 Asian country	36 Yore	38 Surety of a kind	41 Crustacean	42 MacGraw and others	45 Priest's address	46 Highlanders	48 Philippine Mohammedan	49 Name for Athens	50 Alphabetic sequence	52 Slave of yore	53 Buck	54 Enduring for fire or silver	55 Baseball team	57 Literary initials	58 Mauna —
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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

COLA	ETHAN	BERIT	ORIN	COBBLE	GLIA	BLACK	HELOD	OPUS	STIC	ELK	DATED	AMENIT	AGIO	ARC	MASTEN	DISC	SCIENCE	DOOR	LOITS	BORN	VIRTY	SOUJA	LOIN	EDIA	TURP	ASIA	ODD	FOR	LETTERS	ROE	ELITE	OPFRA	DIS	ASIN	PAR	GOES	OR	TRADERS	RAIR	TRAGIT	APER	ETIAL	EBBET	PONV
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Soviets attack U.S. plan for mines in Germany

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Pravda said Sunday a U.S. proposal that NATO build a defensive barrier of explosive-filled pipes on West Germany's eastern frontier was a scheme for undermining European peace.

The U.S. Defence Department said on Wednesday it wanted NATO to consider burying the pipes, to be filled with liquid explosive. On Thursday West Germany rejected the idea.

"The monstrous fantasies of the American militarists are preparing ever newer 'gifts' for Europe," Pravda said in its review of the week's events.

"The Western press has this week given information on a new plot by the Pentagon aimed at undermining European peace," it added.

"The plans for a gigantic mining of European soil are being presented to the accompaniment of political declarations designed to stir up an atmosphere of distrust in the continent," it said.

The newspaper said these included speeches by President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz that questioned the legitimacy of post-war European frontiers.

The newspaper, maintaining a campaign against an alleged revival of German nationalism, said such "revanchism" was being stirred up by the United States.

"Now it is becoming completely clear that the murky upsurge of revanchism in West Germany in recent months is taking place with the encouragement of Washington."

In Soviet terminology, Rev-

anchism refers to the goal of reuniting Germany within pre-war frontiers.

The U.S. pipe plan, the latest statements from Mr. Reagan and Mr. Shultz and promoting revanchism all had one aim, Pravda said.

This was "creating the necessary situation for the further deployment in West Germany and other European countries of American first strike nuclear missiles," it added.

Meanwhile Moscow said in an unusual public announcement Saturday that it is conducting successful tests of new long-range, cruise missiles launched from the ground.

The announcement that a new Soviet weapon was being tested came from the Defence Ministry, and was carried by the official news agency TASS and read on Soviet television news.

It blamed the United States for introducing new long-range cruise missiles and said the Soviet weapon was being developed in response to U.S. deployments.

The publicity given the announcement recalled the fanfare surrounding an official interview given by Defence Minister Marshal Dmitri Ustinov in May, when he announced that the Soviets had installed nuclear missiles on submarines off American shores.

In Washington, Spokeswoman

Sonora McCarthy said the State Department would have no comment on the announcement. White House National Security Spokesman Bob Sims and the Pentagon also declined comment.

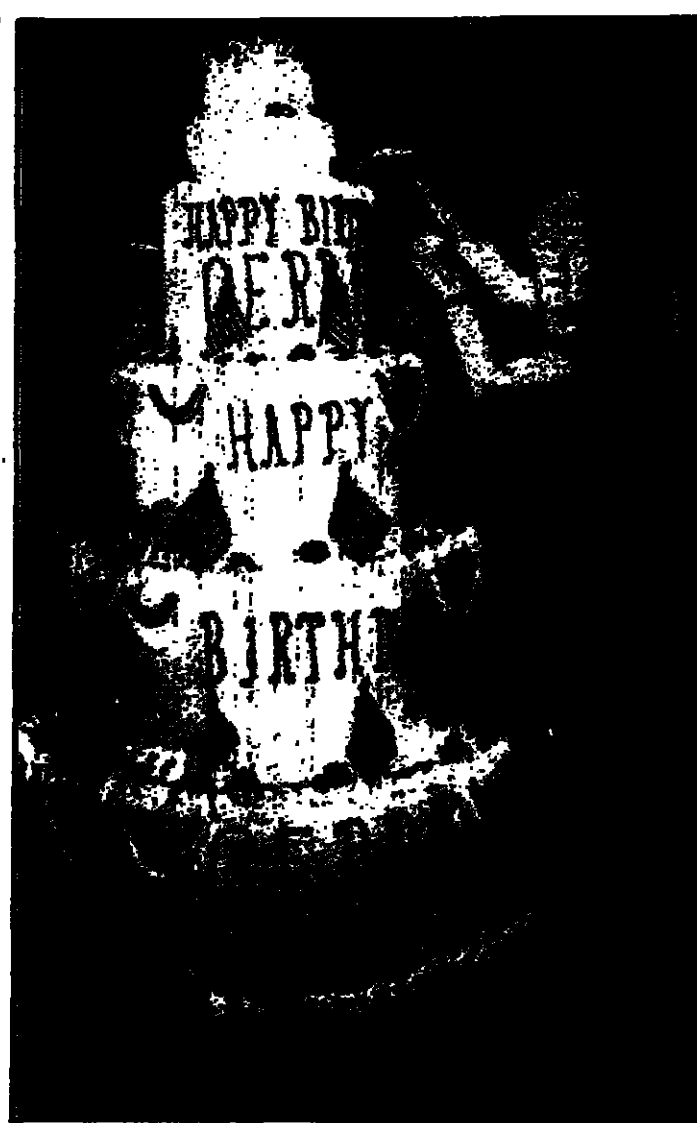
The long-range cruise missiles, intended for land targets, are powered by jet engines and generally fly at either high subsonic or supersonic speeds like airplanes. They are highly accurate, but it takes them much longer to reach targets than ballistic missiles, which are rocket-propelled and travel many times faster than sound.

Both the submarine deployments — an expansion of existing forces — and the matching of U.S. cruise missiles were among measures promised the late President Yuri Andropov when he warned in November that deployments of new cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Western Europe would draw Soviet retaliation.

An editorial in the official Communist Party newspaper Pravda on July 31 repeated Mr. Andropov's vow to match U.S. and NATO cruise missile deployments with longer-range Soviet weaponry.

Pravda said then that "since the U.S. has refused to renounce the new type of weapons, long-range cruise missiles are already being tested in the USSR as well."

Saturday's announcement said that "the United States has embarked on a massive deployment of long-range cruise missiles, including its stationing of ground-launched cruise missiles of this kind in several West European countries in December 1983."



Geraldine Ferraro, Democratic vice-presidential candidate, cuts a cake in celebration of her birthday Sunday. Ms. Ferraro was attending a rally and birthday celebration in Montgomery Friday night (AP wirephoto)

Wallace pledges support for Mondale, Ferraro

NEW YORK (R) — Democratic vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro celebrated her 49th birthday Sunday, confident she has turned the corner on a crisis over her family finances.

"It's been a difficult couple of weeks," she said, "but we're moving out now — to the rest of the campaign."

Ms. Ferraro was in an ebullient mood after a 30-hour weekend tour that took her to Montgomery, Alabama, where she held separate meetings with Governor George Wallace and the state's black Democratic leaders, and to a series of fund-raising cocktail parties in the posh weekend beach retreats of New York City.

As Ms. Ferraro began the trip on Friday, close campaign aides were asking whether two weeks of intense press and political criticism had taken a toll on the candidate — and Ms. Ferraro herself seemed to be brooding about her troubles.

But on Sunday all were claiming that the "spark" was back in the long-shot bid of Ms. Ferraro and presidential running mate Walter Mondale to unseat Republican President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Wallace said he pledged to back her Democratic vice-presidential bid, her campaign manager said.

The pledge by Mr. Wallace, whose White House bid was shattered by a gunman's bullet 12 years ago, could be a boost to the Democrats' effort to regain traditional party support in the south that went to Ronald Reagan in 1980.

Directly after the private meeting with Mr. Wallace, once a segregationist who has moderated his views over the years, Ms. Ferraro drove to a convention of the state's black Democrats and renewed her attack on President Reagan's "policy for the rich".

Neither Ms. Ferraro nor Mr. Wallace spoke to reporters after

their 15-minute meeting, but posed briefly afterwards for pictures on the front porch of the white columned governor's mansion.

Saturday was Mr. Wallace's 65th birthday and Ms. Ferraro, who turned 49 Sunday, gave him a bushel of New York state apples as a present. "I hope that next year we will celebrate our birthdays together in Washington," she said.

Ms. Ferraro Campaign Manager John Sasso told Reuters that Mr. Wallace assured Ms. Ferraro "he is fully behind her."

"He pledged his support and help," Mr. Sasso added.

Mondale meets governors

Meanwhile in St. Paul, Minnesota a group of Democrat state governors Saturday urged their presidential candidate Walter Mondale to live up to his campaign warning of problems in some key states he needs to win if he is to defeat President Reagan in the November election.

Maryland Governor Harry Hughes said 15 governors met Mr. Mondale and urged him to "let his hair down" and to spend more time speaking spontaneously.

Governors James Blanchard of Michigan and Richard Celeste of Ohio said Mr. Mondale was trailing badly in their states, both key industrial areas where the Democrats traditionally have shown strength. Mondale, who trails Mr. Reagan in most polls, was asked at a news conference after the meeting if he would take the advice and live up to his image.

"I'm going to continue to tell the truth," he replied.

Mr. Mondale said Mr. Reagan still had not addressed a key concern raised by the governors — how to deal with the record federal government budget deficit, adding that he himself would issue a plan in the next few days to cut the deficit by two thirds.

He did not name the other commission members but said two were military officials who had received special training from the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation in Puerto Rico.

Mr. Duarte made his announcement during a trip to his town, 25 kilometres north of the capital, where a suspected right-wing death squad killed the 17-year-old daughter of the Christian Democrat mayor in a bomb attack last week.

Mr. Duarte said he wanted to underline his pledge to end right-wing political violence in the country, wracked by almost five years of civil war.

"My duty, my commitment is that I am not going to give the death squads a rest, no matter where they are... I want to show to anybody interested in carrying out death squad activity that they will find me right in front of them," he said.

Before coming to power in June, Mr. Duarte repeatedly promised to stop violence from right-wing death squads, investigate past crimes and put an end to all abuses of authority committed by the army, the traditional power in the Central American nation.

Asked if there would be a government investigation into a widely-publicised massacre in the northern province of Cabañas last month, where, according to church officials, U.S.-trained troops butchered 68 people, Mr. Duarte said he had never heard of the incident.

'U.S. defence strong despite faulty weapons'

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. defence capability remains unimpaired despite recent reports of questionable quality and high delivery costs of some key weapons systems, according to Pentagon officials and defence industry sources.

"The United States is just as able to fight now as it was last month. Nothing has changed there, but there may be short delays in some weapons," a Pentagon official told Reuters.

"The question of reliability in some missiles has not affected our readiness. We have good weapons and where they are problems, we are addressing them," said another official.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, spoke following a spate of bad publicity for the military.

The Pentagon last week stopped accepting delivery of Phoenix air-to-air missiles, Maverick air-to-ground missiles and Tow anti-tank missiles due to what it said was poor quality control and workmanship at Hughes Aircraft Co.'s Tucson, Arizona, plant.

Hughes stopped delivering radar systems to the government for F-14, F-15 and F-18 jet fighters this month after the navy discovered serious workmanship problems in an F-14 radar, according to the Pentagon.

On July 26, the navy said it was restricting the manoeuvres of its new \$25 million F-18 fighter-bomber and grounded 10 of the planes because of cracks in tail assemblies.

A congressional subcommittee accused the navy in July of "horserading" by agreeing to pay General Dynamics \$634 million for cost overruns on nuclear attack submarines. The last of the 18 submarines is to be delivered by early 1985.

"That submarine business was bad," said one defence industry source. "But the attack subs and Trident nuclear missile subs are now apparently on track and at least are going into the fleet on schedule despite costs."

"This whole Hughes business is overblown, giving us a bad name," the source said. "U.S. weapons

are still the best."

Officials at Hughes said the firm would meet a Sept. 1 Pentagon deadline to submit a quality control plan for Tucson.

"This simply should not happen," said a navy official, who reported that inspectors at the plant found defects in disassembled missiles, including faulty soldering and "debris" such as unattached nuts and bolts.

The problems were chiefly in the navy's sophisticated Phoenix air-to-air missile, a number of which are already on station with the fleet, and the army's air-to-ground Maverick missile, which is still in early production.

Defence officials told reporters at a hastily-called briefing the defects would not necessarily cause the missiles to miss their targets. But they said the problems also raised the question of reliability in the Tow anti-tank missile, which has been built at Tucson for 15 years.

Hughes has produced more than 370,000 Tow (tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire-guided) missiles and thousands of them are on station in Europe with NATO allies.

While the Maverick is still going from the test to the early production stage and the Tow has proved to be solidly reliable at \$13,000 each, the new Phoenix-C navy missile is another matter.

Phoenix-A versions are on station with the fleet. But the navy is anxious for the highly-sophisticated Phoenix-C, which takes eight months to assemble and costs \$1 million a missile.

"Due to cost, we simply cannot go around firing the Phoenix-C right and left to test them," said one navy official. "We have to rely on reliability checks and on equipment which can come as close to flight tests as possible."

Pentagon Spokesman Michael Burch said there was no question that all three missile would perform well if they were built properly.

"That's why we're in business for them," he said. "And we are not going to accept shoddy workmanship."

Salvadorean commission to probe atrocities

Troops continue drive

GUATEMALA CITY, El Salvador — A special commission will probe atrocities in El Salvador, including the murder of a Roman Catholic archbishop and the killing of two U.S. advisers, President Jose Napoleon Duarte said Saturday.

Mr. Duarte told a press conference that the five-man commission, formed on Friday by executive decree and of which he himself is a member, would investigate five specific crimes committed in the last four years.

He said it would probe the murder of Archbishop Oscar Amalio Romero by unknown gunmen as he said mass in his chapel in the March 1980 as well as the killing of two U.S. labour advisers and the head of the Salvadorean Land Reform Institute.

The commission will also investigate the disappearance and murder of an American journalist and massacres in two villages in western El Salvador, the president said.

He did not name the other commission members but said two were military officials who had received special training from the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation in Puerto Rico.

Mr. Duarte made his announcement during a trip to his town, 25 kilometres north of the capital, where a suspected right-wing death squad killed the 17-year-old daughter of the Christian Democrat mayor in a bomb attack last week.

Mr. Duarte said he wanted to underline his pledge to end right-wing political violence in the country, wracked by almost five years of civil war.

"My duty, my commitment is that I am not going to give the death squads a rest, no matter where they are... I want to show to anybody interested in carrying out death squad activity that they will find me right in front of them," he said.

Before coming to power in June, Mr. Duarte repeatedly promised to stop violence from right-wing death squads, investigate past crimes and put an end to all abuses of authority committed by the army, the traditional power in the Central American nation.

Asked if there would be a government investigation into a widely-publicised massacre in the northern province of Cabañas last month, where, according to church officials, U.S.-trained troops butchered 68 people, Mr. Duarte said he had never heard of the incident.

On Saturday Salvadorean troops continued their drive against guerrilla positions in central El Salvador in an operation intended to weaken the rebels.

Military sources in San Vicente province said government troops backed by A-37 ground assault jets were sweeping the Cerros of San Pedro, a small chain of mountains and steep ravines in the north of the province, long used by guerrillas as a natural fortress.

Troops have ousted small groups from the area several times this year, but according to military sources, in recent weeks the guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation (FMLN) have stepped up efforts to keep a foothold in the area.

Army Chief of Staff Col. Adolfo Blandon said he believed the rebels would use the Cerros of San Pedro as a staging ground for a major guerrilla offensive in the autumn.

Military sources said the two-day drive was aimed at spiking any rebel plans for an offensive by pushing the rebels from the area. They said they had encountered little resistance so far from guerrilla forces.

Meanwhile spokesmen for human rights organisations said Mr. Duarte's election promise to curb rightist death squads appears to be succeeding.

But there is growing concern about the number of civilian casualties, especially of peasants who sympathise with leftist guerrillas fighting for power. The military has intensified its efforts in the last two months to keep them from providing the rebels with food and other logistical support.

In north eastern Cabañas province, Christian community leaders claimed the army's Atlacatl Battalion killed 64 people, including pregnant women and 27 children on July 19-22.

"You said you have controlled the death squads. Why don't you control and punish the Atlacatl Battalion?" The community leaders asked Mr. Duarte in an open letter listing most of the victims by name, age and hometowns.

In a Sunday homily that week, Roman Catholic auxiliary Archbishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez publicly asked authorities to investigate the complaint.

Rosa Chavez said the church's Legal Tutelage Office, one of four human rights groups, "noted no violent deaths attributable to the so-called death squads during the week of July 20 to 26."

French freighter sinks after collision with ferry

SHEERNESS, England (R) — A French cargo vessel sank off the Belgian coast Saturday night after a collision with a ferry carrying nearly 1,000 British, German and Dutch holidaymakers who escaped unhurt.

The West German-owned Olau Britannia was carrying 935 passengers and 150 crew from Vlissingen, Netherlands, to Sheerness, in south east England, when the accident occurred 10 miles off the Belgian port of Ostend. Lloyd's Shipping Intelligence said.

Most of the crew of the 4,210-ton French roll-on roll-off fre-

ighter Mont Louis were taken aboard the ferry immediately.

The Captain and three other senior officers stayed on board but disembarked before their ship sank five hours later, flooded with water through a severely damaged hull, Lloyd's said.

The 14,981-ton Olau Britannia suffered "minimal" damage and no one was hurt, its managers, Dutch-based Olau-Line Nederland B.V., said.

Company officials refused to speculate on the cause of the collision, saying: "All we know is that there was poor visibility at the time."

Amnesty says Finland returns Soviet defectors

HELSINKI (R) — The human rights organisation Amnesty International Saturday accused Finland of sending back defectors from the Soviet Union.

Bjorn Sundell of the organisation's Finnish section said in radio and newspaper interviews that Finnish authorities did not give defectors the chance to apply

for political asylum.

Finland Friday denied a claim by a defecting Soviet official that it was obliged by treaty to return defectors to the Soviet Union.

Mr. Sundell said Amnesty had taken up the cases of up to 10 people in Soviet jails who had been sent back after crossing into Finland.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
1984 Tribune Company Syndicate Inc.

SUBCONTRACT YOUR ENTRIES

East-West vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♦ QJ54
♦ 5
♦ 8754
♦ K543

WEST
♦ 96
♦ Q 108732
♦ Q 9643
♦ AKJ9632 ♦ Q
♦ Q109 ♦ A87

SOUTH
♦ AK
♦ AKJ10872
♦ 10
♦ J62

The bidding:
West North East South
3 ♦ Pass Pass 4 ♦
Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: King of ♠.

How often have you gazed longingly at a dummy replete with tricks, but you have no entry to them? When that happens, try enlisting outside aid.

Note South's jump to four hearts. A bid of three hearts would simply be competitive and would describe a hand considerably weaker than South's distributional giant.

West led the king of diamonds, and declarer liked what he saw in dummy — if he could ever get to use it. Obviously, the danger was that he would lose three club tricks in addition to the diamond, for the opening preempt made it a near cer-

tainly that East held the ace of clubs. However, the preempt also suggested another line which depended only on West having no more than two trumps.

West won the king of diamonds and continued with the ace. Declarer ruffed with the seven of trumps as East sluffed a spade. When West dropped the queen on the first trump lead, declarer could claim his contract.

He continued with two more high trumps, then cashed the ace and king of spades. The scene was set for the enemy to come to the aid of declarer by providing him with an entry to the table!

Declarer presented East with a trick he did not want by leading his deuce of hearts to East's nine. East got a heart trick he did not expect, but now he was forced to lead a black suit, and no matter what he did he would have to give declarer an entry to the board to enable him to take club pitches on the queen-jack of spades.

The key play was declarer's foresight in ruffing the second diamond with the seven of trumps. If he ruffs with the two instead, a wily East can prevent the end play by jettisoning his nine and six of trumps under declarer's winners, and South will have no way to throw East on lead.

Pretoria criticises Botswana

PRETORIA (R) — South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha has criticised the neighbouring black state of Botswana and threatened to impose tight border controls on Lesotho, which is entirely surrounded by South Africa.

In a speech to Pretoria students Saturday night quoted by state-run South African radio, Botha said relations with Botswana were not satisfactory.

He said Pretoria believed that Botswana could be used as an infiltration route into South Africa by guerrillas of the African National Congress (ANC), following the banning of ANC fighters from Mozambique under a peace pact signed in March between Pretoria and Maputo.

Mr. Botha said negotiations were continuing with Botswana to try to counter the possible new threat.

Botswana and Lesotho have said South Africa is trying to force them into signing formal peace pacts.

Mr. Botha said negotiations for a ceasefire in Namibia (South West Africa) were at a very critical stage and would probably come to a head in the next few days.

Mr. Botha was quoted by state-run South African radio Sunday as telling Pretoria's students that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, Chester Crocker, was expected here within two weeks for further talks.

Mr. Botha reaffirmed that Pretoria would not implement a U.N. plan for elections and a South African withdrawal until an estimated 25,000 Cuban troops pull out of Angola.

Colombian rebels celebrate truce with Bogota

By Angel Romero
Reuters

BOGOTA — Colombian guerrillas celebrated in jungle towns this weekend after signing a truce with the government which could bring peace to the country after more than 30 years of political violence and 300,000 deaths.

White doves of peace were released in the towns of El Hoyo and Corinto when leaders of M-19, Colombia's most active guerrilla group, signed the truce on Friday with representatives of President Belisario Betancur's government.

The truce was a victory for Mr. Betancur, who took office two years ago promising to end the violence that has torn his country since 1948.

Colombia's biggest guerrilla group, the pro-Moscow Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC), ordered its 12,000 men to stop fighting last May, and the Maoist Peoples Liberation Army (EPL) signed a truce with the government on Thursday.

The pro-Cuban National Liberation army is the only major rebel group which still rejects peace overtures by Mr. Betancur, who has promised to eliminate the hunger, unemployment and ina-

dequate schooling he says causes the guerrilla violence.

Mr. Betancur's peace commission faced several setbacks in its attempts to reach a ceasefire with M-19.

The signing of a truce was put off indefinitely earlier this month after the assassination of one of the group's founder members, Dr. Carlos Toledo Plata, a surgeon and member of parliament who advocated peace talks with the government.

M-19 killed at least 42 people in revenge raids.

The peace commission brought M-19 leaders back to the negotiating table. But at the last moment an M-19 leader was wounded in a clash with police on his way to sign the truce document.

After seeking guarantees for his safety, Commander Carlos Pizarro went on to the southeast Colombian town of Corinto and signed the truce despite his wounds.

The M-19 and EPL ceasefires are to take effect next Thursday. M-19 takes its name from April 19, 1970, the date of an allegedly fraudulent election in which former populist dictator Gen. Rojas Pinilla lost his bid for the presidency.

It sprang to international notice



Author Truman Capote dies at 59

LOS ANGELES (R) — Truman Capote, author of such books as *Breakfast in Tiffany's* and *In Cold Blood* and a leader of New York's jet set society, died in Los Angeles Saturday, police said. He was 59.

Detectors were called to the mansion in which he died, but they said later there was no sign of foul play. The city coroner will determine the cause of death. Mr. Capote, one of the highest-paid writers in the United States and once described as the flaccid-voiced, soiree-throwing darling of the jet set, had been staying at the home of Joanne Carson, a former wife of comedian and television talk show host, Johnny Carson, since last Thursday, police said. "She went into his bedroom this afternoon to wake him up to go swimming and noticed he looked pale," a police lieutenant said. "She could not find his pulse and called an emergency medical team which pronounced him dead."

Tiananmen Gate, Square ready for celebration

PEKING (AP) — The Giant portrait of Mao Tse Tung is still missing, but it appears he will retain a place of honour as renovations of Peking's Tiananmen Gate and Square are ready for the Oct. 1 celebration of Communist China's 35th anniversary. Protruding nails from the face of the famous, crimson-walled gate indicate that Mao's picture will reappear, despite speculation that the nation's current leader, Deng Xiaoping, might abandon the tradition. Mr. Deng has criticised Mao's "errors" and reversed many of his policies, but apparently Mao the revolutionary is to remain publicly revered. Elsewhere changes are visible around the world's largest public square ahead of national day festivities, which reportedly will include a parade by 70,000 soldiers and civilians, the largest in a decade.

Jellyfish, wasps and ants plague holiday-makers

TOULON, France (R) — An invasion of pink jellyfish has made swimming off French Riviera beaches a high-risk sport this year. Officials at the Mediterranean resort town of Saint Raphael said about 70 bathers had been stung by jellyfish in the past few days at local beaches, now packed at the height of the tourist season. They said the jellyfish invasion was worse than usual this year and was being compounded in its effect on local tourism by big swarms of wasps and a proliferation of ants. Scientists have been baffled over the arrival every few years of jellyfish hordes off southern France. They variously attribute it to the multiplication of plankton as temperatures rise, to increasing pollution or to the disappearance of the main predator of the jellyfish, the sea turtle.

Japan to build largest telescope

TOKYO (AP) — Japan will build the world's largest telescope, on the island of Hawaii by the early 1990s, according to an astronomical plan submitted to the government. According to the plan, the telescope will be equipped with a 7.5-metre reflector, larger than the world's largest telescope, the six-metre reflector at Zelenchukskaya in the Soviet Union's Caucasus mountain range. Professor Keiichi Kodaira of the Tokyo National Observatory said the observatory housing the computer-controlled telescope will be constructed atop the 4,180-metre (13,796-foot) Mauna Kea on Hawaii Island at a cost of about 20 billion yen (\$26 million). Mr. Kodaira said.

Study underway to stop drunks from driving

SYDNEY (R) — Two Australian academics have been given a government grant to develop a breath-testing gadget to deter drunks from starting their cars. Motorists would have to blow into the device to start the car engine, Professor Bob Breakspear of the New South Wales Institute of Technology told Reuters recently. If the driver was over the legal blood/alcohol level of 0.05 per cent, his car would run slowly, hazard lights would flash and the horn would sound continuously.

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